

From: J. Meier
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/16/02 5:57pm
Subject: MICROSOFT SETTLEMENT

1932 Orchard Drive
Cedar Falls, IA 50613-5741

January 15, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am writing to express my opinion that the lawsuits against Microsoft over the last three years have been flawed and unfair from the start. Microsoft is a victim of political interests. Nevertheless, I am happy to see both parties have agreed upon a settlement and I hope that it comes to fruition at the end of the month.

There terms of the settlement are more than fair. Microsoft has agreed to disclose internal interfaces and protocols, design future versions of Windows' so that competitors can more easily promote their own products, and form three-person team to monitor compliance with the settlement. These concessions and more should appease all parties and although flawed n many ways, I hope they will ultimately serve the IT sector in a positive way.

I urge your office to hold the public's best interests in mind when deciding on whether or not to finalize this settlement. Please quell the nine states that are opposing and take a stance that gets government out of the way of big business.

Sincerely,

John Meier